

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1686
ANSWERED ON:10.12.2008
COVER OVER DELHI DECREASING GREEN
Singh Baba Shri K.C.

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ridge area in Delhi is losing its green cover with heavy traffic flow and illegal constructions;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any study was undertaken by the Ridge Management Board (RMB) in this regard;
- (d) if so, the findings thereof; and
- (e) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS(SHRI S. REGUPATHY)

- (a) No Sir.
 - (b) Not applicable in view of (a) above.
 - (c)to (e) The Department of Forests and Wildlife, Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi, has undertaken identification/demarcation of Ridge jointly with the Revenue Department and Delhi Development Authority using Total Station Method through an Expert Agency in a time bound manner starting from South/South Central Ridge. Once the exact boundaries of the ridge are identified, demarcated and mapped, the discrepancies between the area notified and the areas in physical possession of Delhi Development Authority, Central Public Works Department, New Delhi Municipal Corporation, Municipal Corporation of Delhi, Forest department and Ministry of Defence would be ascertained to decide its appropriate land use.
- Delhi Development Authority is proposing to develop Northern Ridge as Biodiversity Park under the able guidance of Professor C. R. Babu of Centre for Environmental Management of Degraded Ecology (CEMDE), Delhi University. Prof. C. R. Babu has also submitted a concept paper for densification of Ridge through enrichment plantation which is also being examined by the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi.